

M 1965

Saturday, November 14, 1970

Westtown

Group IV

One Part only

MR. NYLAND:

Well, the little point again between Saturday and Sunday. You can reflect though about today. You can be disappointed. You can be satisfied. Whatever your state may be there is another day coming, like many other days will come. Many evenings, we have a chance to see, what was today, what was yesterday, why tomorrow. Why do I continue to wish to live? It's sometimes idiotic to ask such questions. One continues to live unless you make some mistake, but in general, and then what is your life worth? What do you accomplish? How much value? What kind of aim? Of course we always come back to these kind of questions when we want-- with your life and with your Consciousness always being wanted, you have to ask yourself many times during the day, "Do I

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want to develop my life to the fullest extent? If so, can I use now what I experience?"

What do you think Chardavogne Barn Activities are for? To remind you. They're not for money. You want to get out of it, if you can, a living, an honest living. The whole idea of the Activities is to be honest in one's work and to deliver that what may be needed for a reasonable price so that then you can do two things: One, to maintain yourself economically; that is, as far as sociology is concerned. The other way is to help maintain an instrument for the development of man. And you can choose. And if you give the nine percent grudgingly, there's still something wrong with you. This Work is not primarily for making the money, to make a name, even if you have a good store; it is primarily opportunity. I do not know if you can understand it in that way, and those who don't or are half-way, it may take quite some time. I still believe in it because I think that is the reason. I don't believe there is any other reason than to give each other an opportunity to be reminded of Work on yourself, and that you are grateful to the others. I know how far removed you are from that. I know how you dislike each other, and how you are jealous, and how you cannot stand this and that kind of a form of behavior. I know that, and how you consider yourself not so stupid as someone else, and all the different things from ordinary life you have brought with you. And you expect certain things then to be given to

you, and they don't come unless you work. And even if you work, you don't get it because you start to determine what you expect and you don't get that.

The Barn in opportunities is limited. The people who are here are limited. If there is nothing of your liking, you must not stay. If you can find what you could do with what you wish and have and want to accomplish what you can, stay. You are welcome to stay. But otherwise there is little use creating more and more negativity about the things that are not here and that you would like. I mean this in all sincerity. You have to consider for yourself if you get enough out of this barn and this working here on Saturday and Sunday, to have an opportunity to come to Monday or to Thursday or in Brooklyn, in to the other group, or to make your little groups and to exchange what you can, and to read, and to really try to develop an understanding about your inner life. If you are not adjusted to that kind of wish, if there is not enough of that kind of a desire in you to believe that Gurdjieff had a message of some kind also for yourself, then you must not stay here any longer than you absolutely have to. I don't like anyone to stay around just because they want to stay around, because you never can tell. There has to be a little grain of something that you say, "I want it," and no superficiality. Even if the attempts are not often, the sincerity has to be there.

I will talk more and more about what I think this kind of a business can lead to; and what I hope for, what I be-

lieve in; and what kind of perspective can be given with this kind of Work; and for yourself, what it might give you, and the kind of insight, the kind of real life for yourself, as becoming a man, what it is that you need for your growth. But if there are still other little things that you care for and that you wish, and you can't get here, go, and go somewhere else and get them. Get it over with. If you then wish to come back, you can come back. The door will always be open for those who wish to Work. And it doesn't matter how long you stay away. You have to live your life. If you don't get out of this atmosphere and this surrounding, try to improve it by giving something yourself. If you feel that you are delinquent in certain ways, that there is something that is missing, that an end nobody ap-- nobody supplies, try to supply it yourself. If you think there is too much jealousy, don't be jealous and tell someone else not to be jealous. If you think there is not enough affection or kindness and caring, start out with yourself to start with, to see what you can make. If, after many attempts, you come to the conclusion that it isn't there and you can't squeeze blood out of a turnip, then get out somewhere and find a blood with-- a turnip with blood, if that's what you're after.

How will I say it differently? I want you to be honest. And I would like your honesty to give you strength. Don't hang around simply because you have started certain things. Stop it! Come to the conclusion, yes or no, about

this. You know, that's what the Bible says: "Yes or no," no inbetween. Do it right or do it wrong, but not half-way. If today was no good, make tomorrow better. If you cannot make today good, then don't. If you cannot work, then don't. If you cannot have any motivation, don't work. If you just want to use a couple of words, don't do it.

Just try to see if you say slowly, "observation"; and if in use of that word, certain things take place in you which indicate an experience of your being when you say "observation"; or if you say "awareness", or if you say "I".- your 'I' which is, when you create it. The 'I' is connected with higher levels of Being. Do we want to go there? Do we honestly want to? You can die on this earth, quite well, and very nicely, even with music. I don't know if your soul will like it, if there is a little bit of it. Maybe your soul would cry. How little understanding there has been in your life.

You must consider that: You have a gift; you have a responsibility. Are you discharging that responsibility? Can you honestly say at the end of the day you have been thoughtful, you have been mindful, you have tried to think correctly? And all of that leading to an attempt of awareness of an 'I' within you, because if it does not end up with that statement, you know it is not work. It is preparation, thought, feeling, lovely wish, but no work, and it won't build you a soul. A soul is built of - of very special

material, material that belongs to your inner inner Life. Even what is there now will be used. Even what is there now that you build will be used as foundation. Even attempts that you make will be used as cement. Everything will have its use when the direction is indicated as positive in a wish to grow up, to make something out of yourself, to try to be, in the first place, a good kind person, a considerate one, and makes -- a person who makes allowances, who understands Life of others and sometimes enters into that. And wishes then, in that kind of an understanding, to create conditions for that person - you can say because you love them - in such a way that it is acceptable; but also when it is not acceptable, don't continue giving too long, just say, "That's all I can do, and that's the honest truth," and you can say, "So help me God," and then you can sleep in peace.

When we Work, small attempts but honest, quite sincere, very simple, like when you sit and you say, "This body, sitting, this body looking out, something in me looking in, this essential quality of me existing, this Life of me existing, this Life I care for, this body is good for a purpose of expressing Life. That what counts for me is Life, because it is that close to God, and that what is my body may be even preventing me from seeing reality."

If we talk like this, and you try to understand it, I say on a very simple basis, without having to explain, you can ask questions elsewhere, you can read, you don't have to

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have answers from me, because then a Saturday evening can be much better. I will not be under the pressure to have to answer, but I can just say what is on my heart, and what may have accumulated during the week, and as it were share it with you. It will be of help to me. Every once in a while I do have the necessity of sharing this kind of - as we call it - information, this kind of knowledge. Perhaps, in the sharing, the knowledge becomes understanding.

I hope you will have a good Sunday. Again, I do-- I ask you to excuse me after I play for the second time. Next week, there will not be any coffee talk. So next week we'll have movements at five thirty - - five thirty, maybe earlier because it's already getting so dark so early. But we'll have movements at least an hour earlier and then we can meet here at least an hour-- let's say eight o'clock. At such a time I will give you full fare if you want. I don't want to cheat you but for today I have felt already that I've said so much. And not that I'm afraid to become repetitious - I could keep on talking about inner Life because it is alive in me and I can talk from there and tell you and constantly wish that you hear - but I must consider also that the day is full. And when you have worked physically, you may be a little tired and quite rightly so, as long as you don't forget that when you go to bed tonight that you say, "I hope I'll wake up with Work in my heart tomorrow morning." It might help you.

We drink to the appearance of Gurdjieff on Sunday,  
tomorrow, in your work.

END TAPE

Transcribed: Ethel Hemsi  
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